

PARISH NEWS



BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, HEAVITREE, EXETER

26 May 2024. The Most Holy Trinity. Year B. Psalter 4



When the Church celebrates the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity, it is an attempt to summarise the whole mystery of our God into one day. This is not just a "theological feast" but a feast which should speak to us of this simple fact of faith: the Father loves us, has revealed that love in his Son, and has called into a relationship sustained by the Spirit. It is our joy that, as baptised members of the Church, we can somehow share in that divine life and love which is the Trinity~ becoming children of God. God has chosen us, and we are his own people, just as he chose the people of Israel long ago. The mystery of the Trinity is not meant to make this more difficult - on the contrary it is to clarify and summarise all that our faith is about: that we are children - with the Son, in the power of the Spirit - of the one Father.

Salford Office for Liturgy



This is my body. This is my blood.

The key to today's readings is the word "Covenant". A Covenant is a solemn and binding agreement between two parties, which establishes the way in which each party will behave towards the other. It establishes rights and duties and forges a new relationship between two people or groups of people.

In the Ancient World, a Covenant was always sealed with a sacrifice and a meal: the sacrifice brought divine blessing on the covenant, and the meal sealed the relationship between the participants. In the Covenant that God forged with his people in the Old Testament, it was expressed very simply: God said, "You will be my people, and I will be your God." God would remain faithful to the people, and they were to remain faithful to God (this is where the commandments come in).

This Covenant was sealed in its greatest form on Mount Sinai, as we hear in the first reading. When the Old Covenant had been broken beyond repair, God sent his only Son to establish a New Covenant: the sacrifice and meal of this New Covenant is Calvary and the Last Supper, where Christ is both priest and victim and altar.

When we eat and drink this sacred meal at every Mass we are renewed in the New Covenant and the relationship with God, because Calvary and the Upper Room are present once more and the New Covenant is sealed for us anew. *Salford Office for Liturgy*

CORPUS CHRISTI Procession

Next Sunday, 2 June, we celebrate the patronal feast of Blessed Sacrament Church. At the end of the 10.45am Mass we will process the Blessed Sacrament through the church and grounds to the garden where we will celebrate Benediction followed by refreshments. All welcome.

MASS TIMES

Sunday 26 May – The Most Holy Trinity

8.45am *Private intention*
10.45am *For those in the parish who are sick*
6.00pm *People of the Parish*

Tuesday 28 May

6.30pm *Olive Lyle RIP*

Wednesday 29 May

9.30am *Mrs Kelly RIP*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

Thursday 30 May

9.30am *Young people of the parish*
6.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Friday 31 May – The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast

6.30pm *Pat Symons, In thanksgiving*

Saturday 1 June – St Justin, Martyr

9.30am *Hooper family, In Thanksgiving*

Sunday 2 June – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

8.45am *For a new Bishop*
10.45am *People of the Parish*
11.45am **Corpus Christi Procession**
with Benediction in the St Richard Reynolds garden
followed by refreshments.
6.00pm *Canon Paul Cummins*

Tuesday 4 June

6.30pm *Rob Hooper RIP*

Wednesday 5 June – St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr – Patron of the Diocese

9.30am *For the spiritual welfare of Hilda & Edith Robinson*
Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

Thursday 6 June

9.30am
7.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Friday 7 June – The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

6.30pm

Saturday 8 June – The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.30am

Sunday 9 June – Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.45am *People of the Parish*
10.45am
6.00pm

Followed by refreshments in St Richard Reynolds Centre

Liturgy of the Word for Children

During term time at 10.45am Mass on Sunday.

Live stream Mass To access the YouTube stream please [click here](#).

Refreshments after Mass

Served on Sunday after 10.45am and on Wednesday after 9.30am Masses.

Confessions Saturdays after 9.30am Mass.

NEWS & EVENTS

CAFOD News



CAFOD Event – Ripples of Hope

[Ripples of Hope](#) Saturday 8 June 2024. In person: 11.00am - 4.00pm Leamington Spa, St Peter the Apostle Church.

Online: Session 1: 11.00am – 12.00pm; Session 2: 13.30pm –

14.30pm. Join us for Ripples of Hope, an uplifting and motivational event led by the renowned speaker David Wells, available both in person and online via Zoom. This special day is dedicated to igniting the spark of positivity and hope within each participant, encouraging personal growth and community connection. Through engaging talks, reflective sessions, and inspiring stories, David Wells will guide you on a journey of self-discovery and empowerment.

Whether you're seeking inspiration for personal challenges or a renewed sense of purpose, Ripples of Hope promises to leave you motivated and ready to create a ripple effect of positive change in your life and beyond. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a transformative experience! [Register](#) to join us.

The Pillar's Tale



A brief video has been made about the Holy Pillar, or finial, of St Richard Reynolds, situated in Blessed Sacrament Church. It is narrated by the last Abbess of Syon, Sister Anne Smyth, O.Ss.S.

Please scan this QR code to access it. Alternatively, it can be viewed on You Tube.

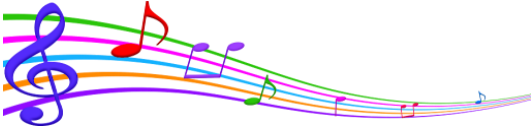
The Diocesan newsletter for May can be accessed [here](#):

End of Life Debate

In light of the calls being made for the legalisation of assisted suicide we are sharing links to Bishop Sherrington's statement on this topic as well as the ten-point summary on the Bishops' Conference webpage [click here](#).

10-point summary on assisted dying [click here](#).

Blessed Sacrament Music Collective



Praising God through music and song is an ancient tradition. David wrote his psalms as musical poetry of worship. In the church, praising

God in song is part of our ancient tradition. St Augustine famously said 'He who sings prays twice'. We want Blessed Sacrament to be a parish where music and song are central to our liturgy at all Masses.

While there are a number of us, we still need more singers and musicians so that we can provide music at all of the Sunday Masses more regularly. This would also help when people are poorly or on holiday.

So, do you enjoy singing? Do you play an instrument? There are no entry requirements except a desire to serve God and our parish by using your gifts. If you play the piano or keyboard, don't worry that there is only one keyboard in a group!

There are now three of us that share the keyboard at different times. We need more! Guitars are on a rota as space is limited. There is a maximum of 3 at any Mass; but we need more if we are to meet our goal of music at every Sunday Mass!

We aim to play a range of music from traditional hymns of the church to modern worship music. We are currently exploring a digital music platform so that we can play from iPads in the future. We have had two very successful BS Collective music 'jams' since November. These are a chance to learn new music and get to know one another. The next 'jams' are:

Saturday 8 June – 10.00am – 1.00pm in the Richard Reynolds Centre

Saturday 5 October - 10.30am - 1.30pm in the Richard Reynolds Centre

Saturday 23 November - 10.30am - 1.30pm in the church

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to play with us, whether you attend at the 8.45am, 10.45am, 6.00pm, or a mixture. We need your gifts and talents to help our parish lift their hearts and voices in praise and worship.

If you are interested in finding out more or coming to one of the 'jams', please email angelajfolland@gmail.com or angela.bosley@btinternet.com

Catholic Bishops' Conference

The latest news from the Catholic Bishops' conference can be accessed [here](#).

Caritas Diocese of Plymouth

Caritas Anniversary Newsletter

This May marks the fifth Anniversary of Caritas Diocese of Plymouth's launch. Read about the work they have done and continue to do [here](#). Alternatively, there is a copy in the porch.

'I was a stranger and you welcomed me' *Matthew 25:35*

Pope Francis calls on us to WELCOME, PROTECT, PROMOTE and INTEGRATE people fleeing from conflict and persecution.

We invite you to a Zoom event on **Thursday 13 June at 6.00pm** to reflect and explore what this can mean in practice, hearing from someone who has been through the asylum system, sustained and supported by her Catholic faith, and from people who have answered the call to help and support in different ways. We all have our part to play to enable people seeking asylum to live with dignity as their claims are decided. We all have the opportunity to make a positive difference: from the power of prayer, to the warmth of a welcome, to practical support, to donations, to supporting campaigns, to short-term hosting, together we can improve the lives of people forced to flee danger.

Refugee Week 2024

The theme for Refugee Week this year is **OUR HOME**.

Please join us to reflect upon how we can make our churches and parishes a place of welcome and support for those forced to leave their homes in search of peace and freedom. Please [click this link](#) to register or email caritas@prcdtr.org.uk.
[Click this link](#) to read about what events are coming up in the diocese.

Plymouth Cast - We need you!

Plymouth CAST is a Catholic multi-academy trust of 34 schools and one nursery, spanning the Diocese of Plymouth. Our mission is to be a community of outstanding schools in which our pupils flourish in safe, happy, and stimulating environments and leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities, and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel.

Plymouth CAST is currently recruiting to expand its Board of Directors. We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you have skills and experience in Finance, HR, and/or Education. Please contact the Clerk to the Trust Board for further information, Mrs Leah Paiano lpaiano@plymouthcast.org.uk

Third Annual Mass for Marriage

Please join us at the **Saturday June 8 at Midday** at Plymouth Cathedral. Send us your anniversaries to add to the Order of Service - whether you have been married for one week or sixty + years (or about to marry). Let us know too when your wedding will take place if you are engaged. Light refreshments will be provided and (not so light) wedding cake.

For further information please contact: deborah.vankroonenburg@prcdtr.org.uk

Stella Maris

Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is very grateful for this parish's prayer and financial support of its work on Sea Sunday last year. To report back on the use of those funds, it invites parishioners to join an online update and thank you webinar on Tuesday 28 May from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. You will hear about the impact of your generosity on the lives of seafarers, fishers, and their families over the last year. Its CEO and chaplains will share inspiring stories of how they have helped seafarers and fishers through your support.

To register for this virtual event, please [visit this link](#).

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Crediton

This will take place on **Sunday 9 of June** at St Boniface Church, Park Rd, Crediton presided over by Cannon Paul Cummins. Parishioners are warmly invited to the celebration of the Feast of Saint Boniface, Patron of our Diocese.

Pilgrims are invited to gather from 4.00pm at the Church for Vespers and Benediction. Light refreshments will be provided. For further information, please see poster or e-mail crediton@prcdtr.org.uk. Parking is available nearby for coaches.

Plymouth Diocese Catholic Charismatic Renewal

You are invited to the following event:

Jesus is in the house! (Mark 2:1) Come and encounter Him.

A day of encounter for all ages, at St Cuthbert's Conference Centre, Buckfast Abbey **10.00am – 6.00pm on 29 June.**

Experience joyful praise and worship, ways of connecting to God's voice, prayer from the heart, workshops, prayer ministry, Adoration, and Mass. Hot and cold drinks included, optional two course lunch or bring your own packed lunch. Tickets available from Eventbrite [here](#). We want to make the day as accessible as possible for everyone so there is also a 'pay what you can' option for tickets. Please contact info@swccr.org.uk for more information or if you have any questions. We're really looking forward to sharing the day with as many of you as possible!

Plymouth Diocesan and Youth Pilgrimages to Lourdes

Here's your chance to join us at Our Lady's beautiful shrine this year; let's go and bring some blessings back for our diocese! **26 July** for 6 nights. Please see the posters on the notice board in the porch.

Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth)

The latest "Children First" **newsletter** can be found in the church porch.

The CCSP has teamed up with Tozers Solicitors who have a long history of being legal advisers to the Diocese of Plymouth and CCSP and will be holding their first ever **Wills Week w/c 17 June 2024**. Tozers have offices in Exeter, Newton Abbot and Teignmouth and they have kindly offered us 10 appointments for our parishioners to make a simple will to provide security for themselves, their loved ones, and the children of the future. Tozers have suggested a small donation be made to CCSP and they will then waive their usual fee which is considerably more. They have suggested a donation of £300 and this payment would be made to Tozers during the appointment and then they will ensure the payment is sent to CCSP. To request more information, or to book an appointment to make a simple will with a member of the team from Tozers, please email enquiries@tozers.co.uk or call **01392 207020**. Appointments during Wills Week will be offered on a first come first served basis although if you are unable to make w/c 14 June, Tozers can offer a little flexibility in their appointment schedule.

Recycle your ink cartridges and help support CCSP. Please pop your used ink cartridges in the box situated in the Baptistry at Blessed Sacrament. Thank you.

Orange Box. De-clutter and help the children in our Diocese. There is an orange box in the St. Richard Reynolds Centre where items can be placed and every box filled will raise much needed funds for the CCSP.

Items that can be collected in the boxes include coins and bank notes, precious metals, medals and badges, costume jewellery, metals, watches, keys and locks, small antiques and collectibles.

Exeter Foodbank

Donations of the following priority items are especially needed: tins of meat, tins of vegetables, tins of fruit, jams and spreads, noodle and pasta snacks, small jars of coffee, rice pudding.

There is a collection basket at the back of the church. Please email Mark at info@exeterfoodbank.org.uk to find out how you can help.

The Shape of Authentic Hope

In this difficult, disillusioned age, why do we *need* the Church? In preparing for the Jubilee year 2025, Pope Francis has asked us to explore the key documents of Vatican II. Bill Keimig, Deputy Director of the Catechetical Institute Franciscan University of Steubenville, in his visit to the UK, will be speaking to us on the document on the Church (Lumen Gentium: A light to all peoples). Come and join us at Schiller Hall, Buckfast Abbey on Wednesday June 26 6.00 – 8.00pm. The event will begin at 5.00pm with tea/coffee and a chance to connect and chat with Bill and his team. [Contact here](#) to reserve a place.

Laudato Sí – Exeter responds

The Diocese is reminding us of Pope Francis's Letters, Laudato Sí and more recently Laudate Deum. The Holy Father uses words from the great Canticle of St Francis of Assisi to ask us to consider our care for the earth and its diversity of life, and for people threatened by the very serious environmental problems we face together.

Here in Exeter we propose to reflect on the Pope's teaching documents and what they might mean for our lives and wider social responsibilities, drawing on the strengths of our parishes of Holy Cross, Blessed Sacrament and Sacred Heart.

If this interests you, please share your name and contact details with Coral Mortier, Parish Secretary at Sacred Heart: 01 392 642389 exeter-sacredheart@prcdtr.org.uk. Your support will help us organise a combined Laudato Sí meeting for Exeter - details to be announced.

Exeter Street Pastors

There will be a commissioning service for our new street and prayer pastors at The Terrace in the Guildhall at **3.00pm on Sunday 9 June**.

It would be lovely to see you there to join with us and the night time economy, to celebrate this achievement of completing training and commissioning them as they start deploying. See the poster in the church porch.

Diocese of Plymouth Summer Camps 2024

The Summer Catechetical Camps provide young Catholics of the Diocese of Plymouth opportunities to learn about their faith within a holiday atmosphere. Originally the vision of the Catholic Women's League, who organised and ran them for many years, they are now run by a dedicated team of volunteers, many of whom experienced camp for themselves.

Based in the grounds of Buckfast Abbey, this year's dates are:

Senior Camp (Yrs 7-10)	28 July – 2 August
St. Petroc's Camp (Yrs 11 & 12)	31 July – 2 August
Junior Camp (Yrs 3-6)	4 August – 8 August

There are flyers in the porch which give details of how to book your place on Camp. Click [here](#) to download the information booklet and find out more.

St Nicholas School News

This half term is flying by and everyone in school has been very busy! A huge well done to our Year 6 children for completing their SATS. We were so impressed with the dedication, hard work and resilience they have shown. They were happy to have finally completed them and we know their reward of doughnuts went down a treat! This week the children in Years 1-6 have been participating in the NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe program. We are also starting to plan for Sports day and our fabulous PTA are starting to plan a summer fundraising event to further enhance our outside spaces.

For information about joining our school from Nursery to Yr 6 please contact Mrs Brocksom by emailing admissions@stncls.uk. We do have Nursery spaces in September and can offer wrap-around care.

Forget-me-not Bereavement Café

We invite anyone who has suffered a bereavement of any kind, at any time, to come along to our **Forget-me-not Bereavement Café** for a cup of coffee/tea, cake and a chat. The café will be held once a month on a Saturday morning (every fourth Saturday of the month) at 10.30am in the St Richard Reynolds Centre.

Come along, and maybe bring a friend with you who you think would also benefit from making contact with others in a friendly relaxed café. There is no need to book just come along on **Saturday 22 June** We look forward to seeing you.

PRAYER & LITURGY

Pope's May Prayer Intention [The Pope Video](#)

We pray for those training for the Religious life and for the Priesthood. May they grow to be credible witnesses of the Gospel through the human, pastoral, spiritual, and community formation they receive. "Do not be afraid of holiness. It will take away none of your energy, vitality or joy.

We commend to the Lord...

Please keep all who have died and their family and friends in your prayers. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Worship Thursdays

Adoration in church each Thursday 7.00-8.00pm.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

GIFT tots

An hour of fun faith for pre-school age children and their parents and carers. Come together to pray, sing, explore and create the Good News as we Grow In Faith Together. 2nd Friday every month at St Richard Reynolds Centre, Blessed Sacrament. 4th Friday every month at the Lower Room Sacred Heart. 10.15-11.15am.

Registration is Required. [GIFT Tots Registration Form](#)

The session on **Friday 14 June in the St Richard Reynolds Room is cancelled.**

GIFT families and youth

Next GIFT Meeting: **Saturday 8 June at 9.45am** at St Nicholas School.

GIFT is for primary and secondary aged families and supports them to live and grow as Catholics. It enables parents to prepare their children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

[GIFT Registration Form](#)

[GIFT Youth Registration Form](#)

GIFT youth socials

Please would parents of any young person wishing to come to GIFT Youth socials register them before they attend. This helps ensure everyone's safety. The next GIFT Youth Social scheduled for 21 June will not take place due to the SPREE Faith Festival. If you've signed up for GIFT Youth, details of the next session will be sent to you.

Wednesday Word Scripture Reflection

Prayerfully Preparing for the Proclamation of Sunday's Gospel

Every week from 2.00 – 3.00pm via zoom, we set aside time together to pray, read, meditate and share our thoughts on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. Contact Maria exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk if you would like to join or have further questions about how the session runs.

The call to conversion

Explore how ordinary people in the Bible, just like you, were met by Jesus where they were and called to a better life through Him. The common theme in each story is the turning of all one's attention and energy towards an ever deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We meet at Sacred Heart every fortnight on Monday morning after the 10.00am Mass in the Lower Room. Next meeting **Monday 3 June.**

Going into hospital?

If you, or someone you know is going into hospital for any length of time and would like the Chaplaincy team to know, please let the parish office know.

Getting Married?

Congratulations. If you are hoping to marry at Blessed Sacrament Church or any other place, including abroad, we require at least six months' notice. Please contact the parish office to arrange an appointment to meet with the parish priest.

Baptism Preparation Course

Are you expecting a baby and/or wish to have your child baptised? We look forward to supporting you in preparation for this important sacrament and welcoming you and your family into the community of the Church. Courses are over two consecutive Saturday mornings from 10.15-12.15 delivered via Zoom.

Forthcoming dates: **20 & 27 July** and **12 & 19 October 2024**. Godparents are especially welcome to attend the second Saturday session as the role of Godparents is explored. Click on the link at the end of this article to register. If you have any problems accessing this, contact Lesley on 01392 274724 or exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk. We are now taking bookings for the July 2024 course. [Baptism Enquiry form](#)

THE WORD

Sunday 26 May –The Most Holy Trinity

– Eighth Week in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40

The Lord is God indeed, he and no other.

Psalm Response: Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 14-17

You received the spirit of sons, and it makes them cry out, "Abba, Father!"

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday 2 June –The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

– Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Exodus 24:3-8

This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you.

Psalm Response: The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.

Second Reading: Hebrews 9:11-15

The blood of Christ can purify our inner self from dead actions.

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16,22-26

This is my body. This is my blood.

Sunday 9 June – Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Genesis 3:9-15

I will make you enemies of each other: you and the woman, your offspring and her offspring.

Psalms Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

We believe, and therefore we speak.

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

It is the end of Satan.

CONTACT US

Blessed Sacrament Parish

29 Fore Street, Heavitree, Exeter EX1 2QJ

01392 274724

exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Priest *Fr Jonathan Stewart*

Priest in retirement *Fr John Watkins*

Parish Secretary *Catherine Odams*

Pastoral Assistant *Maria Quinn* exeter-pastoral-assistant@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Office *Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10.00am–4.00pm*

Gift Aid enquiries: exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish website blessedsacrament.org.uk

Parish Facebook [Facebook Catholic Exeter](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicExeter)

Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about a vulnerable child or adult, please contact the parish office on 01392 274724 or by email: exeter-heavitree@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

Lesley Hooper 07712 216724

Maria Edwards 07870 696530

St Nicholas School

St Nicholas Catholic Primary School, Ringswell Avenue, Exeter EX1 3EG

01392 445403

admin@stnics.uk

www.st-nicholas-exeter.devon.sch.uk

Executive Head Teacher *Cathy Blatchford*

Useful links

[Bishops' Conference Updates](#) [Churches Together Devon News](#) [Churches Together Exeter News](#) [Churches Together England News](#)